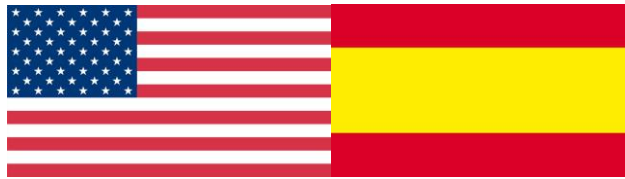


FACT SHEET



UNITED STATES EMBASSY IN MADRID

U.S. – Spain Defense Cooperation

Enduring Partnership that Serves Joint Interests: As President Obama said during his 2014 meeting with President Rajoy, “...security cooperation between the United States and Spain has never been stronger.” For more than sixty years, the U.S. – Spain defense partnership has helped bring security to both our countries, strengthened the transatlantic alliance, and underwritten Europe’s security. By combining the individual capabilities of our respective militaries, in partnership, we advance shared goals. While the challenges that our two nations face have evolved over the years, from the international missions in Bosnia, Afghanistan and Lebanon, to counter piracy and peacekeeping efforts in Africa, to supporting a UN plan to prevent the Assad regime from carrying out more chemical weapons attacks against its people, our commitment to work together as Allies has remained constant. In 2014, we took our security partnership to another level, with the agreement to station four U.S. Navy destroyers alongside the Spanish Armada at the Spanish Naval Base in Rota. Stationing the USS COOK, the USS ROSS, and the USS PORTER, to be joined later this year by the USS CARNEY, in Rota represents a joint contribution to a core next-generation NATO mission. These U.S. ships, operating out of a Spanish base, represent a significant joint contribution to trans-Atlantic security, and provide the backbone for NATO’s defense of all European populations against the threat posed by the proliferation of ballistic missiles.

60 Year Tradition of Working and Training Side by Side: More than 4,400 U.S. military personnel and family call Rota and Morón home, continuing the tradition of generations of Spanish and American soldiers and their families living and working side by side, and on bases that we built together. Because they stand on the same soil, day to day, our sailors and airmen, soldiers and marines, also have the opportunity to train together in ways that strengthen both our militaries. Already this year, we have conducted 19 bilateral exercises. From parachute and dive training, to explosive ordnance disposal, aerial refueling, and amphibious landings, Spanish and U.S. forces are helping each other prepare and improve their skills, readying both militaries to face present and future challenges, including non-traditional missions like responding to humanitarian crises. With joint training comes improved interoperability – vital to maintaining NATO’s strength in these uncertain times. In addition, in the last year, U.S. servicemen and women have given over 2,000 hours of their free time to service to their communities, including an extensive repair and refurbishment project at the Santa Clara Convent in Morón and our 37 year tradition supporting the Virgen de Rosario in Rota.



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Positive Economic Impact: The economic contributions of the defense partnership are significant. In 2014, the U.S. military presence at Rota and Morón supported approximately 3,500 jobs for full time and contract Spanish personnel. Also in 2014, U.S. forces injected more than 120 million euro into the Spanish economy through contracts and services in Rota and Morón. For example, the U.S. Air Force presence at Morón annually awards between 6 and 7.5 million euro in contracts for construction, services, and commodities to local businesses. In the last year, the Marines have engaged local businesses in 1.7 million euro in contracts for transportation, telecommunications, utilities, linens, furniture, and other services. In Rota, more than 43 million euro in service and maintenance contracts have been awarded for base projects. The influx of U.S. personnel attached to the first three destroyers has already resulted in hundreds of new contracts for housing in the communities of Rota and Puerto de Santamaria. United States ship visits in the last year have brought in millions of euros in business to Spanish ports such as Malaga, Mallorca, Rota, and Ferrol. In 2013, Spanish shipbuilding company Navantia received a seven-year, \$229 million contract to provide maintenance to the U.S. destroyers, supporting Spanish jobs in a region with high unemployment. To date, Navantia has completed two major (100 day) maintenance efforts involving an average of 350 Spanish workers per day, and numerous minor projects for the U.S. Navy with an estimated value of \$35 million. Repair and modernization work will begin on the third ship immediately following arrival in Rota, with the next major maintenance period scheduled to begin in November.

Cutting Edge Technology Sharing; Unparalleled Interoperability: The U.S. and Spanish defense industries cooperate closely across a broad spectrum of defense initiatives. From Research and Development to Engineering and Science Exchange Programs, to the acquisition of new capabilities, we work collaboratively to ensure our forces are equipped and operationally ready to meet the complex contingencies of the 21st century. As an example, the Spanish F-100 Class ships are equipped with the U.S. Aegis combat system, providing state of the art air defense capability to Spain, while insuring seamless interoperability with U.S. and NATO maritime forces. Additionally, on a smaller scale, the U.S. supports the emergent capability needs of the Spanish Armada and in 2015 expeditiously provided a new SCAN EAGLE maritime remote Unmanned Aerial Vehicle system in support of the Armada's operational requirements. The acquisition and maintenance of such systems supports a steadfast foundation on which to build a close and enduring operational and tactical Air-Defense relationship, which subsequently enabled Spanish shipbuilder Navantia to win a major maintenance support contract for the U.S. destroyers.

Rich Aspect of a Multi-Faceted Relationship: The defense relationship is but one element of a productive, multi-faceted bilateral partnership that also seeks to promote trade and investment, expand educational and cultural exchanges between our two peoples, and support democratic values across the globe.

April 28, 2015



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